

# Rogue River Courier

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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Newspaper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service

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## UNITED STATES IS AT WAR WITH GERMANY

### WILSON PLANS RAISING ARMY OF TWO MILLION

WILL MEET EMERGENCY BY  
PUTTING GREAT BODY UN-  
DER ARMS

### REGULAR ARMY WAR STRENGTH

Selective Draft of Young Men Rang-  
ing in Age From 19 to 25  
Years

Washington, April 6.—After pro-  
claiming a state of war the presi-  
dent this afternoon issued the fol-  
lowing statement as to the means  
to be chosen to raise the army of  
two million asked for by the war  
department last night:

"The principles embodied in the  
legislation presented by the war de-  
partment to the military committees  
of the house and senate have my  
entire approval, and its specific re-  
commendations represent the best  
judgment of the officers of the war  
department."

"It proposes to raise the forces  
necessary to meet the present emer-  
gency by bringing the regular army  
and national guard to war strength  
and by adding the additional forces  
which will now be needed so that  
the national army will comprise  
three elements—the regular army,  
the national guard and the so-called  
additional forces, of which a first  
five hundred thousand are to be au-  
thorized immediately and later in-  
crements of the same size as they  
may be needed in order that all these  
forces may comprise a single army,  
the term of enlistment in the three  
is equalized and will be for the pe-  
riod of emergency."

"The necessary men will be se-  
cured for the regular army and the na-  
tional guard by volunteering as at  
present, until, in the judgment of  
the president a resort to a selective  
draft is desired."

"The additional forces, however,  
are to be raised by selective draft  
from men ranging in age from 19  
to 25 years."

"The quotas of the several states  
in all of these forces will be in pro-  
portion to their population."

"This legislation makes no at-  
tempt to solve the question of a per-  
manent military policy for the coun-  
try, chiefly for the reason that in  
these anxious and disordered times  
a clear view cannot be had either of  
our permanent necessities or of the  
best mode of organizing the proper  
military peace establishment. The  
hope of the world is that when the  
European war is over arrangements  
will have been made composing many  
of the questions which have hith-  
erto seemed to require the arming of  
the nation, and that in some ordered  
and just way the peace of the world  
may be maintained by such co-opera-  
tion of force among the great na-  
tions as may be necessary to maintain  
peace and freedom throughout the  
world."

"When these arrangements for a  
permanent peace are made we can  
determine our military needs and  
adapt our course of military prepara-  
tions to the genius of a world or-  
ganized for justice and democracy."

"The present bill, therefore, is  
adapted to the present situation, but  
it is drawn upon such lines as will  
enable us to continue its policy, or  
so much of it as may be determined  
to be wise, when the present crisis  
has passed."

### MEXICAN ARMY IN MENACING MOVE

Carranzista Troops Make Sudden  
Movement Toward the Border and  
Trouble Is Expected

El Paso, April 6.—Sudden move-  
ment of Mexican government troops  
toward the United States border to-  
day, in the states of Chihuahua,  
Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, is be-  
lieved by federal authorities here to  
portend hostile action against bor-  
der settlements, despite the explana-  
tion offered by Carranzistas officials  
that the troop movements are a part  
of the campaign against the bandit  
forces under Villa.

Government agents here are watch-  
ing closely for evidences of a border  
raid and action probably will be  
taken at the first hostile indication.

### ENGLAND WANTS ARGENTINE WHEAT

Buenos Aires, April 6.—England  
has put powerful pressure on Argen-  
tine to force raising of the wheat em-  
bargo. It was learned on high au-  
thority today that the British govern-  
ment has threatened an embargo on  
coal as a reprisal against the grain  
ban announced by Argentine.

The greatest alarm was manifest  
among Argentine officials today. They  
were hurriedly making another in-  
ventory of the republic's food sup-  
plies. It was known, however, that  
without British coal all railroads, all  
shipping and all industries in the na-  
tion would be paralyzed.

Argentine could only survive with  
the greatest privation.

The situation so far has been con-  
cealed from the Argentine public, of-  
ficials not desiring to reveal the gov-  
ernment under coercion.

Officially it was known also the  
government is deeply concerned over  
the influences behind the dissatisfaction  
of Governor Ugarte of Buenos  
Aires province to President Irigoyen's  
authority. It was predicted that Ugar-  
te's removal from the governorship  
would be the government's next step,  
provided it was ascertained such re-  
moval could be accomplished without  
bloodshed. There has been a long  
feud between the state and the gov-  
ernment and Ugarte and Irigoyen.

### GERMANS ATTEMPT TO RELIEVE WEST FRONT

London, April 6.—Striving des-  
perately to relieve the tremendous  
pinch-like grip around St. Quentin  
exerted by British and French forces,  
picked German troops were hurled  
against the French line northwest of  
Rheims last night and today in one  
of the most powerful diversions at-  
tempted in months. The attack was  
delivered in force. Its object was  
plainly to force hurrying of reserves  
from other portions of the line at-  
tacked and lift the pressure from  
around St. Quentin.

Front dispatches today declared  
the fighting in the Rheims' sector  
was proceeding with unabated vio-  
lence. The French were forced to  
relinquish some trenches here, but  
for the most part succeeded in re-  
capturing those points which fell in  
the first fury of the German attack.

The Germans' assault was attempt-  
ed over a front of more than a mile.  
Meanwhile dispatches indicated sys-  
tematic progress in the encircling  
movement around St. Quentin by  
both the French and British.

### RESOLUTION SIGNED BY WILSON THIS AFTERNOON

America Now Lined Up With the Entente Allies to Crush  
German Imperialism and to Stop the Kaiser in His  
Waging of Ruthless and Barbarous Warfare  
and Murdering of American Citizens

Washington, April 6.—War was declared at 1:13 this afternoon. At  
exactly that hour President Wilson signed the joint resolution passed by  
the house and senate declaring a state of war between the United States  
and Germany.

An hour before the resolution was signed by Vice-President Marshall  
at 12:13.

These were the last formalities necessary to make the United States  
an ally of England, France and Russia in the world war of democracies  
against autocracy.

The resolution had passed the house at an early hour this morning  
by a vote of 373 to 50.

As the president signed the document, Lieutenant-Commander Mc-  
Candless signalled across the street to the navy department that war was  
formally on and orders were flashed out from the government wireless to  
the ships at sea and the forts of the United States.

Simultaneously every steam whistle in Washington and on the Potomac  
river was opened wide and their screeches could be heard in every corner  
of the nation's capital.

While the ink was still wet on the historic war resolution messages  
to all the countries of the earth were sent, notifying them of this gov-  
ernment's action.

The state department informed the Swiss minister here representing  
German interests in the United States of this country's action. The min-  
ister will communicate the word formally to Bern by cable and thence to  
Berlin.

United States representatives in every foreign capital should have the  
news within the next 24 hours.

President Wilson signed the war resolution while alone in the library  
of the White House two minutes after it had reached the executive man-  
sion from the capitol.

From the White House the engrossed resolution was sent to the state  
department, there to rest as one of the most important papers filed away  
in the government's records. It bears no outward mark of difference from  
hundreds of thousands of other state papers in the files. But it marks the  
beginning of a new war of civilization, according to President Wilson—a  
war, the end of which must determine whether democracy or imperialism  
shall rule the world.

Immediately after signing the joint resolution for war the president  
issued a proclamation to the people of the country declaring a state of war  
exists between the United States and the Imperial German government.  
He asks all American citizens "in loyal devotion to their country, dedicated  
for its founding to the principles of liberty and justice," to uphold the laws  
of the land and "give undivided and willing support" to all measures adopt-  
ed by the government "in prosecuting the war to a successful issue and in  
attaining a secure and just peace."

At the same time he warned all aliens to conform to strict regulations  
which he outlined in the proclamation.

### PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY THE PRESIDENT TO PEOPLE OF AMERICA

Washington, April 6.—President  
Wilson this afternoon issued a pro-  
clamation to the people of the coun-  
try, declaring a state of war exists  
between the United States and Ger-  
many.

At the same time he especially di-  
rected all officers of the United States  
government, civil or military, to ex-  
ercise vigilance in the discharge of  
their duties incident to such a state  
of war. The same time he appealed  
to all American citizens to uphold the  
laws of the land and "give undivided  
and willing support to those mea-  
sures which may be adopted by the  
constitutional authorities in prose-  
cuting the war to a successful issue  
and in obtaining a secure and just  
peace."

The president's proclamation  
reads:

"Whereas, the congress of the  
United States, in the exercise of the  
constitutional authority vested in  
them, have resolved, by joint resolu-  
tion of the senate and house of rep-  
resentatives, bearing date this day,  
that the state of war between the  
United States and the Imperial Ger-  
man government which has been

### WOMAN M.C. VOTES AGAINST THE WAR

Miss Rankin One of Fifty to Cast  
Ballot in Opposition to War  
Resolution

Washington, April 6.—A woman  
furnished the most dramatic scene  
of the most dramatic session in the  
history of this nation's house of rep-  
resentatives.

The woman was Miss Jeannette  
Rankin of Montana, the first woman  
ever to sit in either body of the coun-  
try's legislature.

The house passed the historic res-  
olution that says Germany had war-  
red upon this government, amid stir-  
ring scenes at 3:08 this morning.

The vote—373 to 50—was not un-  
expected, after the thrilling de-  
bate had at last been concluded, a  
stillness that seldom marks house  
proceedings settled over the chamber.  
Then there was a stir in the galleries.  
The members, too, began to shift  
about a moment.

The clerk drew out the list of  
names, recording members' votes.

Two hundred and twenty-five mem-  
bers had addressed the house.

Peace advocates had met war ad-  
vocates, man for man, until midnight.  
Then the tension almost reached the  
snapping point. Perspiration dripped  
from members' foreheads. Sudden-  
ly a motion was made to reach an  
agreement by twelve, or let the mat-  
ter go over until Saturday or Mon-  
day. It never reached a vote.

As Good Friday was ushered in,  
the house seemed as far from a vote  
as at 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

Cries of "vote, vote" arose from all  
sides. Debate had been limited to  
five minutes, but names of those who  
wished to speak kept piling on the  
list.

At 10:30 a. m., Representative  
Britten, Illinois, introduced an am-  
endment to the bill that would have  
prohibited the use of American  
troops in Europe. Debate, which  
had repeated two and three times  
during the day, switched to this.

At 2:05 a. m., after speeches had  
been repeated and repeated the  
break came when Congressman Mc-  
Gee, New York, announced:

"The house is ready for a vote. I  
shall ask that my remarks be ex-  
tended to the record, instead of read-  
ing them and thereby save time."

A dozen followed suit. Majority  
Leader Kitchin asked that it lay over  
until Saturday. The motion was de-  
feeted. Chairman Flood of the for-  
eign affairs committee asked that the  
committee of the whole go into a  
house session, and take up the ques-  
tion.

The house then proceeded to take  
up Britten's amendment. Britten  
demanded the "ayes" and "noes."  
He grinned as groans arose from all  
over the chamber. It takes 45 min-  
utes to an hour to call the house roll.

Speaker Clark put the question as  
to "ayes" and "noes" to a vote and  
it was overwhelmingly defeated, viva  
voce.

Promptly at 2:45 o'clock the house  
started to vote on the resolution.

At 3:08 a. m. the roll had been  
called in record time and the presi-  
dent's "state of war" resolution had  
passed both branches of congress.

Throughout the day and night the  
galleries kept their long vigil. Un-  
til the last minute the corridors were  
packed with scores ready to spring  
into the first seat vacated, but few  
persons left.

Frequently the chair had to ad-  
monish the galleries to keep silent

### GERMAN SHIPS IN AMERICAN PORTS SEIZED

MARINES AND BLUEJACKETS  
ARE PLACED ABOARD ALL  
VESSELS IN THIS COUNTRY

### IS FIRST ACT OF WAR BY U.S.

Ninety-one Ships in All Were Taken  
Over, Including the Giant Liner  
Vaterland

New York, April 6.—United States  
armed forces seized all German ships  
in all American ports today. It was  
America's first act of war.

In ports on every coast of the  
United States proper, and its pos-  
sessions, marines or bluejackets went  
aboard the enemy ships today, made  
the German crews prisoners and took  
possession of the vessels in the name  
of the United States.

At Hoboken, N. J., alone, 15 ves-  
sels, including the giant Vaterland,  
largest vessel afloat, were taken. In  
all 27 ships were seized in New York  
waters.

The total number of German ships  
in American waters which were seized  
is ninety-one. They represent a  
total gross tonnage of 594,995.

From Philadelphia, Boston, New  
Orleans, Jacksonville, Wilmington,  
N. C., San Francisco and other ports,  
came reports during the morning of  
the seizure of ships. No trouble was  
reported. In every instance marines  
or bluejackets were armed, waiting  
and ready for the signal to take over  
the ships. This signal was word that  
the house had passed the war resolu-  
tion.

In New York harbor a long, gray  
war painted destroyer waited anxiously  
on the water, just off the bow of the  
giant Vaterland. Her guns were  
trained on the enemy's big merchant  
and passenger ship.

Inspection of many of the vessels  
seized revealed they had been dam-  
aged seriously and could not be made  
fit for service for several months.

The Kronprinzessin Cecilie was an  
example. The captain admitted un-  
der oath recently that he had dam-  
aged the machinery of his ship un-  
der orders.

The hulls of the vessels are all in  
bad condition, owing to being tied up  
for nearly three years. It will take  
many months to make repairs on  
practically all of the interned ships.

Washington, April 6.—In seizing  
the 91 German ships in American  
ports the United States acquired ves-  
sels purposely built for conversion  
into auxiliary cruisers. It was learn-  
ed at the department of commerce  
today that most of the passenger  
ships are built as naval auxiliaries  
with gun platforms, reinforced decks  
and other equipment for offensive  
purposes. Officials said seizure of  
these ships has increased our trans-  
porting ability tremendously. Four-  
teen of the larger vessels will trans-  
port at one time about 40,000 troops.  
American merchant fleet available  
at present can carry only about half  
that number.

or they would be cleared out. But  
ripples of applause came every time  
one side or the other scored an im-  
portant point.

Men sat in solemn silence. The  
crowds would laugh jerkily when  
there was nothing to laugh about.  
But the dread of what was being en-  
acted seemed to grip every person.

Five minutes after the resolution  
had passed, house, chamber and gal-  
leries were deserted.

(Continued on Page 2)